

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01343 080714Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 OMB-01 SSM-03 EUR-12
/103 W

-----028438 080715Z /17

R 080640Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5145
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 1343

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SO, EG
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN MILITARY SUPPORT FOR SOMALIA

1. EGYPTIAN MILITARY ATTACHE, COLONEL HALIM, HAS SENT A
THIRD SOMALI ARMS REQUEST FROM SOMALI GOVERNMENT TO CAIRO.
LATEST LIST, POUCHED TO CAIRO AUGUST 7, CONSISTS
PRINCIPALLY OF REQUESTS FOR SPARE PARTS FOR SAM II MISSILE
DEFENSE SYSTEM, AS WELL AS VITAL LUBRICANT SUPPLIES FOR
SOMALI TANKS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT. COLONEL HALIM CLAIMS
SNA HAS SUFFICIENT LUBRICANT SUPPLIES IN STOCK TO MEET
CURRENT NEEDS BUT WOULD IMMEDIATELY FEEL PINCH IN EMERGENCY.
AMONG LUBRICANT ITEMS SNA MOST CONCERNED ABOUT IS SPECIAL
LUBE OR HYDRAULIC FLUID ESSENTIAL TO ABSORB RECOIL OF T-54
TANK GUN. HE CLAIMS SOVIETS HAVE NOT RPT NOT PROVIDED
SUFFICIENT RESERVES OF THESE AND SIMILAR LUBES.

2. ACCORDING TO HALIM, SNA SAM II NETWORK IS IN GOOD
STATE OF READINESS BUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS MIGHT BE
CURTAILED BY SHORTAGES IF COMMITTED TO ACTION OVER
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PROLONGED PERIOD OF TIME. HE SAID SAM II SYSTEM IS WHOLLY
SOMALI-MANNED AND SNA BEGAN TO PREPARE FOR ITS UTILIZATION
AGAINST ETHIOPIANS SEVEN MONTHS AGO. HE INSISTS THAT
SOMALIA HAS NOT RPT NOT REQUESTED SAM II MISSILES FROM
EGYPT.

3. HALIM SAID THAT SOMALIA HAS ASKED EGYPT TO PROVIDE

SNA WITH RUSSIAN-BUILT BM-13 AND BM-21 ARTILLERY/ROCKET PICES. HALIM CLAIMED THAT SOMALI HAD USED BM-13 AND BM-21 EFFECTIVELY IN SIEGE OF DEGAHABUR AND ITS DEPLOYMENT WAS CHIEFLY RESPONSIBLE FOR TOWN'S FALL. HE SAID LARGE QUANTITIES OF ROCKET AMMUNITION HAD BEEN EXPENDED BECAUSE OF INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WEAPON AND SNA WAS CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE SHORTAGES.

4. SNA OFFICIALS WITH WHOM COLONEL HALIM IS IN CONSTANT CONTACT HAVE BEEN PRESSING HIM FOR ANSWER TO RECENT ADDITIONAL WEAPONS' REQUESTS. AS OF YET, HOWEVER, HE IS UNABLE TO RESPOND. CAIRO HAS GIVEN HIM NO ANSWER, EVEN TO REQUEST FOR PILOTS. HE IS MORE UNCERTAIN AS TO CAIRO'S INTENTIONS AT PRESENT THAN HE WAS TWO WEEKS AGO. HE IS ALSO IRRITATED BY ENORMITY OF SNA APPETITE FOR WEAPONS AND ITS DISREGARD FOR DETAIL IN PUSHING ITS DEMANDS. HE TOLD SNA, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT 490-LITER FUEL TANK FOR MIG-21 (WHICH EGYPTIANS HAVE EVIDENTLY FABRICATED) WOULD REQUIRE MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO AIRCRAFT BUT SOMALIS DISREGARDED HIS WORD OF CAUTION. IN OTHER WAYS SNA HAS BEEN VAGUE IN ITS DEMANDS AND WANTS ANYTHING THEY CAN LAY THEIR HANDS ON.

5. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR RETURNED TO MOGADISCIO FROM CAIRO AFTER FIVE DAY VISIT AND TALKS WITH SIAD. AMBASSADOR MAY HAVE BROUGHT WITH HIM GOE RESPONSE TO SOMALI DEMANDS. LOUGHRAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, DEFENSIVE WEAPONS SYSTEMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770284-0382
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From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770886/aaaacume.tel
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Litigation History:
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